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RELEASED IN PART **E14**
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00
	VC-00	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	L-00	VCE-00	AC-00
	NSAE-00	OIC-00	OMB-00	PA-00	PM-00	PRS-00	ACE-00
	P-00	SP-00	SS-00	STR-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	PMB-00	PRM-00	DRL-00	G-00	SAS-00	/000W	

-----156118 282136Z /62

O 282114Z APR 04
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6019
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY
NSC WASHDC PRIORITY
USCINCSO MIAMI FL PRIORITY
USINT HAVANA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 001444

NSC FOR CBARTON
USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD
STATE PASS USAID FOR DCHA/OTI

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: APPEALS REVIEW PANEL
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 27 APR 2019
APPEAL ACTION: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RELEASED
REASON(S): B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DATE/CASE ID: 22 OCT 2007 200404746

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/27/2014
TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PHUM, VE
SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN OPPOSITION GREEN LIGHTS SIGNATURE
APPEALS PROCESS

REF: A. CARACAS 1346
B. CARACAS 1267
C. CARACAS 1247
D. CARACAS 1376

Classified By: Abelardo A. Arias, Political Counselor,
for Reasons 1.4(b) and (d).

Summary

1. (C) Venezuela's Coordinadora Democratica (CD) decided
April 27 to participate in the appeals process, scheduled for

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REVIEW AUTHORITY: MELVIN E SINN
DATE/CASE ID: 24 JUN 2005 200404746

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May 27-31, for the signatures collected to petition for a recall referendum against President Hugo Chavez. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Beginning April 23, the National Electoral Council (CNE) gave the opposition the data categorizing the signatures as valid, under observation, or rejected. Similar data has also been given to the OAS Carter Center and the pro-Chavez Comando Ayacucho. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] End summary.

Coordinadora Approves Reparos

2. (C) The Coordinadora Democratica (CD) announced on April 27 it will participate in the May 27-31 signature appeals process for the presidential recall referendum. A CD spokesperson made the announcement late on April 27 after a seven-hour debate within the CD's political committee.

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----- CD Reveals Game Plan -----

4. (C) CD head Enrique Mendoza launched the opposition's campaign for the appeals process on April 28. Mendoza said the CD would begin immediately to form committees to locate persons who must appeal their signatures. On May 8, Mendoza said the CD would re-activate 700 of the signature collection centers used during last year's signature drive to inform citizens of the status of their signatures. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Mendoza said the CD would "swear-in" and train volunteers from May 10 to 17,

then put the volunteer networks to work May 18-26 to contact every signer that needs to participate in the appeals process. The volunteers will then mobilize the signers to get to the appeals centers May 27-31.

----- CNE Continues to Set the Rules -----

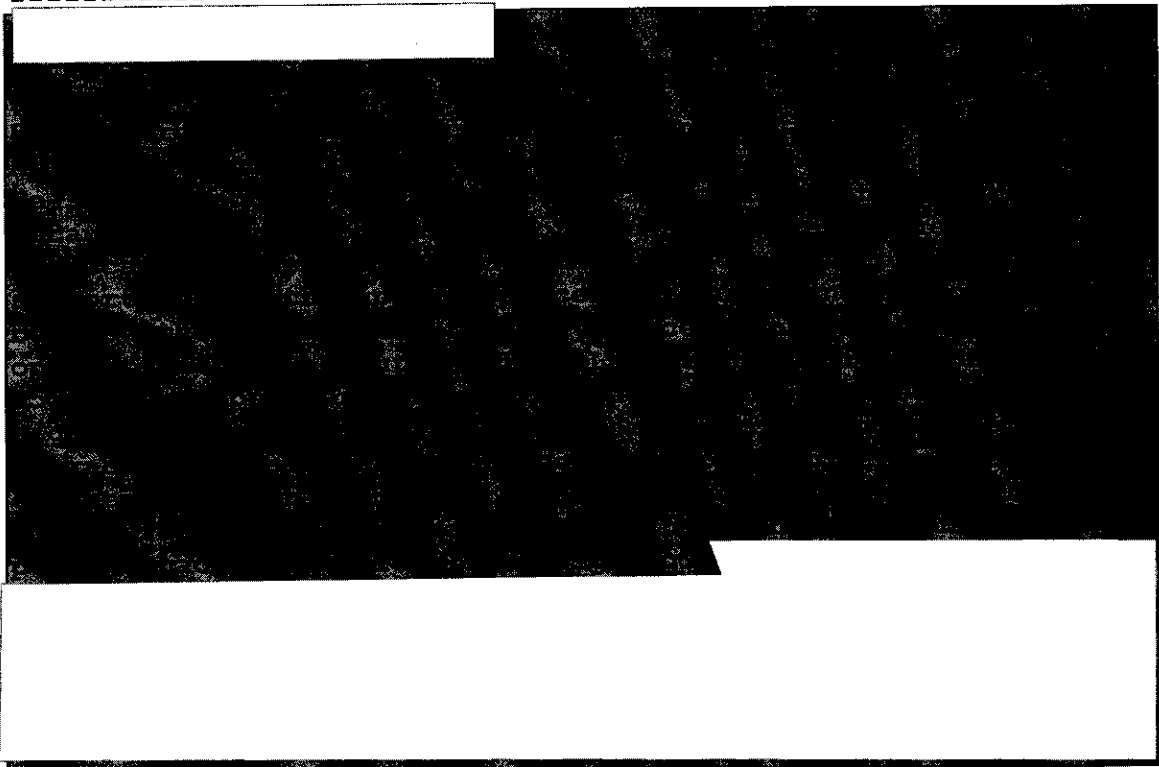
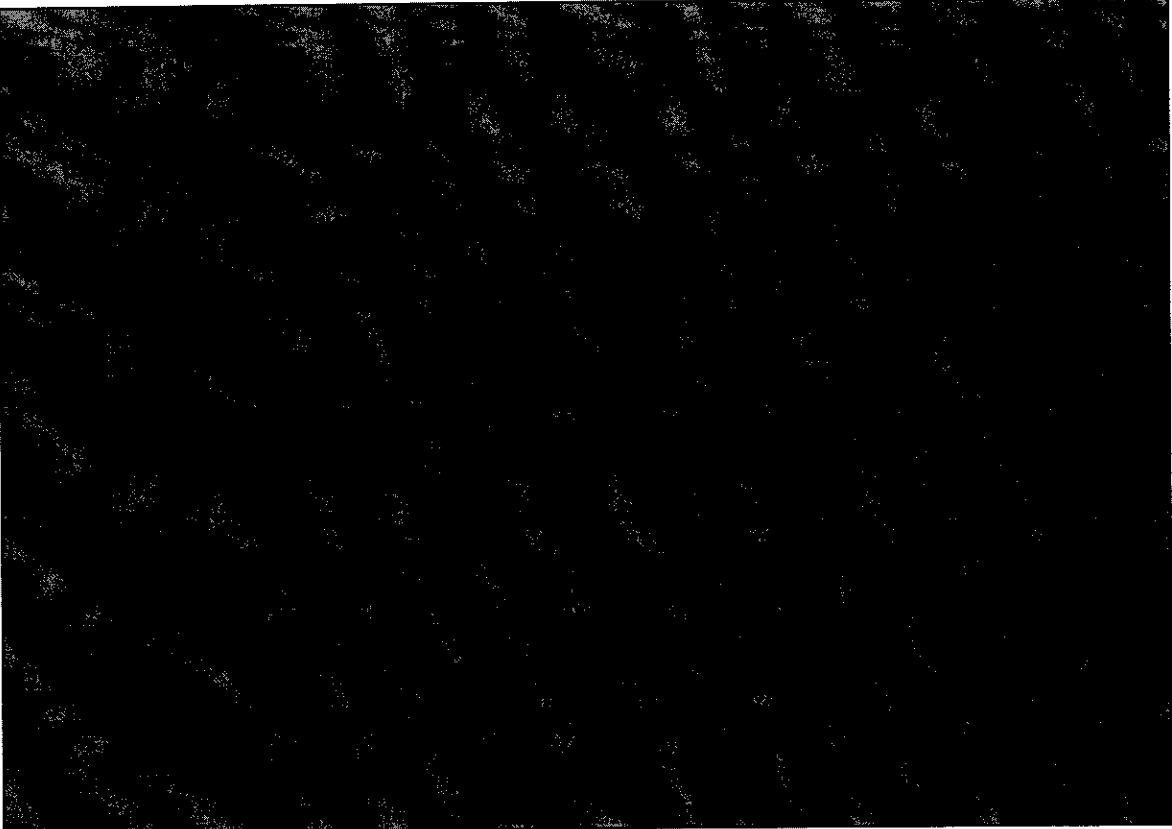
5. (C) The National Electoral Council (CNE) began releasing the data on the results of the signature verification process for the presidential recall referendum April 23. The database, which the CNE subsequently updated two more times, was provided to opposition representatives, the OAS Carter Center and the pro-Chavez Comando Ayacucho. The database listed 1,910,965 valid signatures and 1,192,914 signatures eligible for the appeals process. Some 900,000 of the signatures sent to the appeals process are associated with the so-called "planillas planas," signature forms filled out, in the same handwriting. The CNE rejected 375,241 signatures outright, principally for errors in the daily tally sheets ("actas"), unspecified errors in the fingerprints, and for contradictions with the electoral registry.

----- Technical Analysis of Results -----

[REDACTED]

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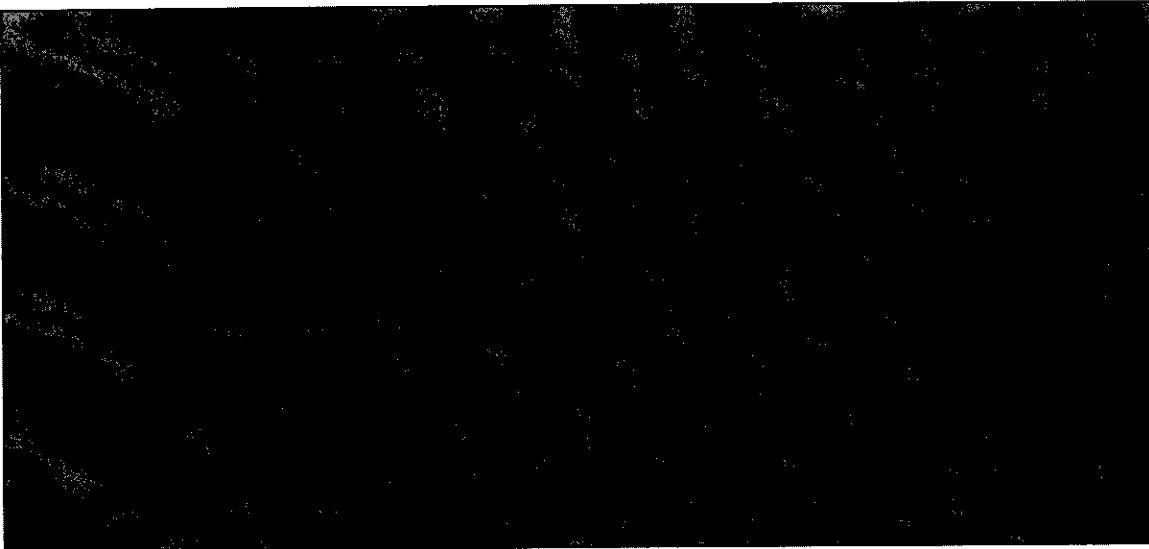


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Comment



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